

Aruba

TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Saturday, October 31, 2015

U.S. escalates involvement in Syria BRADLEY KLAPPER

LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States escalated its fight against the Islamic State in Syria on Friday, pledging the first open deployment of military boots on the ground, even as U.S., Russian and other diplomats pressed a new peace effort that America hopes will hasten the departure of Bashar Assad.

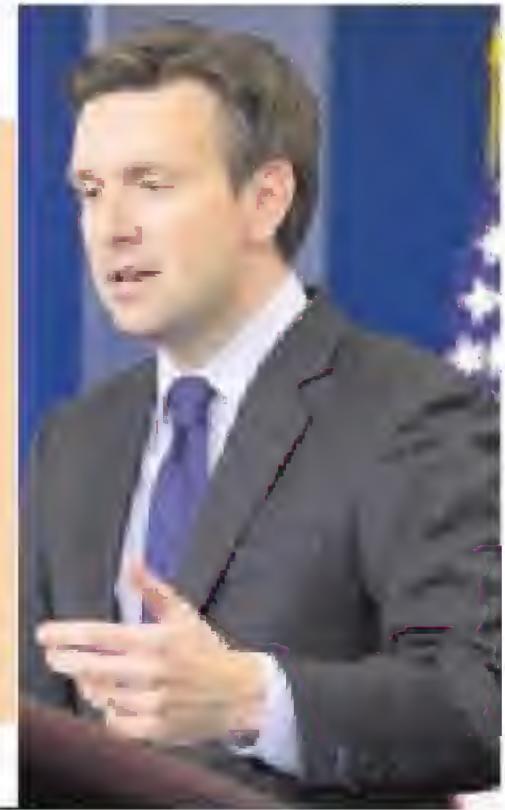
Up to 50 special operations

troops will be sent to assist Kurdish and Arab forces in northern Syria, American officials said. The move marks a significant departure for President Barack Obama, who for years has resisted putting ground forces in Syria even as he has gradually intensified the U.S. military response to what counterterrorism officials worry is a growing Islamic State threat in Syria and Iraq. The troop announce-

ment came as diplomats in Vienna representing 17 countries and the European Union agreed to launch a broad new peace attempt to gradually end Syria's long civil war — a declaration that avoided any determination on when President Assad might leave. It is not clear how many rebel groups would agree to a plan that doesn't result in Assad's immediate departure.

White House press secretary Josh Earnest speaks to the media during the daily briefing in the Brady Press Briefing Room of the White House in Washington, Friday, Oct. 30, 2015. Earnest commented on President Obama's decision to deploy fewer than 50 commandos to northern Syria to work with local group forces in the fight against Islamic State militants.

Associated Press



Continued on Page 3

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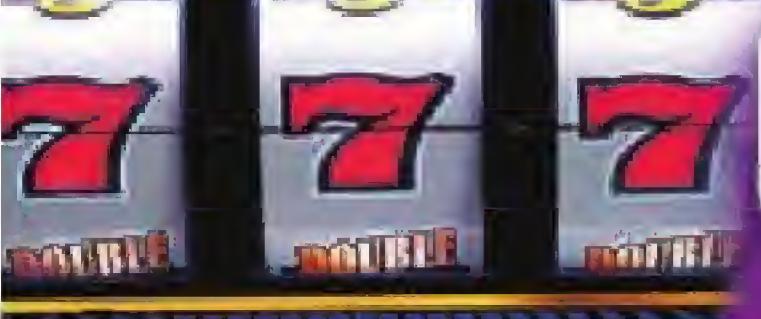
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Defense chief: U.S. will keep adjusting to Islamic State fight

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer
FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP)

— Defense Secretary Ash Carter said Friday the decision to send special operations forces to Syria to work with local Kurdish and Arab fighters is unlikely to be the last significant adjustment to the U.S. fight against the resilient Islamic State group. "We are going to continue to innovate to build up what works," he told

reporters flying with him to Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska, on the first leg of a nine-day trip to the Asia-Pacific region.

He added that the U.S. will soon beef up its air campaign by sending F-15 fighter planes to a Turkish air base, giving the U.S. an opportunity to accelerate airstrikes. A senior defense official said the U.S. will send about a dozen of the F-15s to Turkey's Incirlik Air Base.

Asked whether the use of U.S. special operations troops in northern Syria to coordinate with local forces was a model that would be adopted in Iraq, Carter said "we will continue to consider" this and other ways to achieve better results against the militants, who control large portions of Iraq and Syria.

Carter said the U.S. forces in northern Syria will be in an area where Russian warplanes are not bombing, so it would not be necessary to talk to the Russians about steering clear. The U.S. and Russia recently signed a memorandum of understanding to avoid unintended conflicts between their warplanes, which are operating separately in the skies over Syria. Carter declined to be specific about where the U.S. troops will operate in northern Syria but said they will be in territory controlled by Syrian Kurds.

"However, the Kurdish YPG and the Syrian Arab coalition essentially work together to counter ISIL," he said, referring to the main Kurdish group fighting the Islamic State in an area near the Turkish border.



Defense Secretary Ash Carter testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Associated Press

The Syrian Arab coalition is a U.S. term for a group of about 5,000 Sunni Arab fighters.

Carter added, "Both we and the Syrian Kurds see the great value of the Syrian Arab coalition as the fact that they are Sunni Arabs and therefore have an interest in driving ISIL from Raqqa," the militants' declared capital. "Moreover, they'll be the kind of force that is more likely to be accepted by the population of Raqqa, and that's im-

portant." Raqqa is in Arab territory south of the Kurdish area.

U.S. officials have said the U.S.-led coalition campaign in Syria is now focused on putting increased pressure on IS in Raqqa. That could in turn make it easier to fight IS in Iraq. U.S. officials said Friday that as part of the plan, the U.S. is talking with the Iraqi government about setting up a commando task force to better target Islamic State leaders and networks. □

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Clinton backs decision to send US commandos into Syria

LISA LERER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton supports the decision by President Barack Obama to deploy a small number of special operations forces to northern Syria to work with local ground forces in the fight against Islamic State militants.

Campaign spokesman Nick Merrill said in a statement that Clinton "sees merit in the targeted use of

special operations personnel." He added that Clinton also strongly "supports ongoing diplomatic efforts to end the conflict."

But, he said, she opposes the U.S. entering a larger ground war in the Middle East to combat the rise of Islamic militants.

As secretary of State, Clinton advocated for a more aggressive U.S. role in the Syrian conflict. Earlier this month, she called for a no-fly zone over the area,

a move the administration opposes.

Clinton's main challenger, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, said through a spokesman that he has "concern about the United States being drawn into the quagmire of the Syrian civil war which could lead to perpetual warfare in that region." Sanders reiterated in the statement that he believes the "crisis in Syria will be solved diplomatically, not militarily." □

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U.S. escalates involvement in Syria BRADLEY KLAPPER

Continued from front

Any cease-fire agreement that may come as a result of the peace effort would not include the Islamic State, which controls large parts of northern Syria and has its capital there.

But the participation by Russia and Iran in the attempt could mark a new and promising phase in the diplomacy since those countries have staunchly backed Assad.

The White House has long said that Assad's ouster is essential to its ultimate goal of defeating the Islamic State because the Syrian president's brutal tactics against Sunni rebels have drawn Sunni radicals from all over the world into the militant group's ranks.

The Syrian civil war has killed more than 250,000 people and uprooted more than 11 million, sparking a refugee crisis throughout Europe.

Despite killing as many as 12,000 militants, the U.S. bombing campaign has not significantly weakened the Islamic State's capacity to hold territory, and the group's ranks have been replenished by foreign fighters and others.

Military experts say ground troops are essential for the fight. A U.S. program to train Syrians was abandoned as a failure, and the new deployment essentially would replace that program.

Speaking to reporters flying with him on an overseas trip, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said this would probably not be the last significant adjustment to the anti-IS military campaign in Syria and Iraq.

"We are going to continue to innovate, to build up what works," he said.

Friday's developments came as missiles slammed into a crowded suburb of the Syrian capital. The attack killed at least 40 people, activists said. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Local Coordination Committees group said government forces fired more than 11 missiles at a market in the

suburb of Douma.

In Washington, officials said the new U.S. forces will work from headquarters locations and won't move to the front lines or be used to call in airstrikes. However, the U.S. has conducted special operations raids into Syria before now and will continue to do more unilateral raids. It helped Iraqi forces rescue hostages last week, and Master Sgt. Joshua Wheeler was killed, the first U.S. combat death in that country since 2011.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said the new troops will not be on a "combat mission."

"There's no denying the serious risk they will be facing," Earnest said, but their mission will "not be to lead the charge to take the hill."

Russia and Syria are conducting airstrikes in the country, but Earnest said it was unlikely the U.S. troops would be at risk because Russia has not bombed in the area where they will be.

On Capitol Hill, some lawmakers greeted the troop announcement with dismay.

It "marks a major shift in U.S. policy — a shift that is occurring without congressional debate [and] is unlikely to succeed in achieving our objective of defeating IS," said Sen. Brian Schatz.

On the other hand, Sen. John McCain, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said the decision was "another insufficient step in the Obama administration's policy of gradual escalation."

One of the groups the U.S. troops will be working with is a Kurdish militia known as the YPG, which could pose a political problem for the United States.

The YPG was accused of war crimes in a recent report by Amnesty International, which documented allegations that the group forcibly displaced Arabs and Turkmen and burned down villages perceived as cooperating with its opponents. The group has denied the allegations and the State Department says it is looking into them.

Carter declined to be specific about where the U.S. troops will operate in northern Syria but said they will be in territory controlled by Syrian Kurds.

"However, the Kurdish YPG and the Syrian Arab coalition essentially work together to counter ISIL," he said.

In Vienna on Friday, the U.S., Russia and more than a dozen other nations directed the U.N. to start anew diplomatic process between Syria's government and opposition groups with the goal of reaching a nationwide cease-fire and political transition — but without an explicit demand for Assad to quickly leave power.

American officials say the talks marked a significant new phase, one they



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, left, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, arrive for a press conference after a meeting in Vienna, Austria, Friday, Oct 30, 2015.

Associated Press

hope is an endgame for Assad's reign.

At a joint news conference with Russia's top diplomat and the U.N. envoy to Syria, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said the countries — including fierce regional ri-

vals Iran and Saudi Arabia — each pledged to support an independent and secular Syria, to maintain the country's institutions, to protect the rights of all Syrians and to strive to defeat the Islamic State. □



OCTOBER 31



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New emails show breadth of Hillary Clinton's network

LISA LERER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new batch of Hillary Rodham Clinton's emails released Friday presented a glimpse into the breadth of her personal network — a Rolodex of powerful celebrities, CEOs, political advisers and politicians that she's now tapping for her presidential campaign.

A political celebrity long before she became secretary of state in 2009, Clinton and her team balanced requests from a long list of boldface names. They included the pop star Lady Gaga, Burma's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi and former President Jimmy Carter.

While Clinton's private email address was unknown to much of official Washington, at least one Hollywood celebrity wrote to her there. Actor Ben Affleck, a longtime Clinton supporter, urged her in April 2012 to review a draft of a report about security problems in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Hours later, Clinton emailed an aide, "I'd like to respond to Ben Affleck." A day later, she reminded an aide that she was still waiting for the aide to draft a reply: "I haven't yet received a draft and would like to respond today."

The response to Affleck was censored in the email released Friday by the State Department, because it was a draft version.

In another December 2011 note, civil rights leader and former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson reached out to Clinton's staff with a request to talk to her before his visit to South Africa, asking how best to "represent her/Ad- min thinking on any issues/



In this Dec. 2, 2011, file photo, Myanmar's pro-democracy opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, right, and then-U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speak to the press after meetings at Suu Kyi's residence in Yangon, Myanmar.

Associated Press

opportunities that might arise." He was quickly added to her call list.

On Friday, hours before the email release, Jackson touted Clinton's candidacy before a meeting of black pastors in Atlanta, saying: "It's healing time. It's hope time. It's Hillary Clinton time."

Clinton has faced questions about whether her unusual email setup, which involved a private server located at her New York home, was sufficient to ensure the security of government information and retention of records.

At least two Senate com-

mittees are still investigating Clinton's email arrangement and seeking the release of correspondence from her top aides. The FBI is also investigating the security of Clinton's private email setup.

Yet Clinton's place in preference polls has improved since the first Democratic primary debate, in which her chief primary rival, Vermont independent Sen. Bernie Sanders, defused the issue, saying "the American people are sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails."

Roughly half of Clinton's 30,000 work-related emails

are now public, and the State Department's effort to release the rest will linger into next year. Most of the correspondence made public to date involves the mundane workings of government — scheduling meetings, organizing secure phone lines and booking flights.

A few of the emails hint at the ways Clinton maintained her network of campaign donors, even while serving in a position at a distance from electoral politics. In a June 2011 message, an aide informs Clinton that longtime donor Susie Buell contributed

\$200,000 toward a summit at which Clinton was scheduled to speak.

"She wants it to be wonderful for you," wrote Clinton aide Melanne Verveer. In April 2011, Clinton's aides received a request from Jose Villarreal, a former Clinton campaign adviser from Texas, to speak at the launch of a project she asked him to start involving U.S. engagement with Mexico. Clinton told her aides to develop a press and social media outreach "to every possible group." Villarreal now serves as her campaign's treasurer.

Other emails highlight the struggles of her daily life at the State Department — from technological issues to sleepless nights. She requests her password for The New York Times website, searches for books and apologizes to old law school friends for being slow to reply to their emails. In April 2011, daughter Chelsea Clinton, using the email alias Diane Reynolds, emailed her mother a link from a Wall Street Journal story headlined "The Sleepless Elite: Why Some People Can Run on Little Sleep and Get So Much Done."

Clinton forwarded it to her assistant with her common request, "Pls print."

A year later, Clinton asked her top communications aide if she could get "smiley faces" on her new BlackBerry. Philippe Reines responded, "For email, no, I don't think so - you need to type them out manually like :) for happy, or :-(if you want to express anger at my tardiness."

He also explained how for text messaging, typing :) might "automatically convert it into a symbol. Try it." □

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Judge denies appeal from inmate facing firing squad

LINDSAY WHITEHURST
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A judge denied an appeal Friday from a Utah death row inmate who argued that his sentence of death by firing squad is cruel and unusual punishment.

U.S. District Judge Dee Benson wrote in his ruling that the U.S. Supreme Court has never overturned a state's chosen method of execution as cruel and unusual, though he said inmate Ron Lafferty can still press his claims in Utah state court. Utah recently approved the use of a firing squad as a backup if lethal injection drugs are unavailable.

Lafferty, 74, had argued that the firing squad would cause a lingering, unnecessarily painful death. He chose to die that way when he was sentenced 30 years ago and such a choice was available, but his lawyers now argue that he wasn't legally competent to do so.

Attorneys for Lafferty did not immediately return a message seeking comment. He is likely still years away from a possible execution date.

Utah is the only state that allows executions by fir-

ing squad if lethal injection drugs aren't available. State lawmakers said the approval was a practical matter of choosing a back-up plan to the drugs that have come under increasing scrutiny.

Opponents, however, say firing squads are barbaric. Lafferty is the longest-serving death row inmate in Utah and one of the inmates who is closest to a possible execution date. He was convicted in the 1984 deaths of his sister-in-law, Brenda Lafferty, and her baby daughter. He claimed the killings were directed by God because of the woman's resistance to his beliefs in polygamy. Ron Lafferty's firing squad arguments came in a federal court motion asking a judge to put his case on hold so he could pursue complaints about evidence handling and testimony. Arguments against capital punishment are common in death penalty appeals, but Utah's move to bring it back as a back-up method could bring new scrutiny.

While Benson declined to halt the federal case, he said Lafferty is still free to pursue his other claims. □



In this Oct. 6, 2005 file photo, convicted murderer and death row inmate Ron Lafferty is handcuffed after his court hearing in a courtroom in Provo, Utah.

Associated Press

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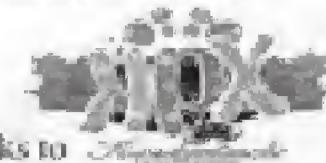


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Dogs with busy social lives dress up for more than Halloween

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Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Wally the Welsh corgi used to get dressed up to go trick-or-treating for Halloween, often as a banana, once as a dinosaur.

But Wally, owned by Marc and Cynthia Dalangin of Wharton, New Jersey, doesn't go trick-or-treating anymore. Like a lot of busy dogs, he has too many other engagements. And as a budding Instagram celebrity, he needs a wardrobe full of costumes to choose from.

As dogs have filled their social calendars, they've had to fill their closets too.

Two years ago, Wally left the simple banana costume behind when he underwent a lifestyle and wardrobe makeover. Now he dresses like Elvis Presley ("King Corgi") and Michael Jackson ("Thriller Corgi") and has become a rising star on Instagram, with 63,000 followers, and Facebook, with 12,000 likes. Wally's transformation coincides with the pet costume industry's coming of age. And business is booming.

The National Retail Federation estimates that 20 million pet owners will dress their pets this Halloween, spending \$350 million on



This 2015 photo provided by PetSmart shows a dog in a Supergirl costume for Halloween. The pet costume industry has come of age.

Associated Press



This 2015 photo provided by PetSmart shows a dog dressed for Halloween in a Batman costume. The pet costume industry has come of age.

Associated Press

They're not just dressing up once a year on Halloween. These days, dogs and their owners are getting invited to parties, parades, meet-ups, pumpkin patches, picnics, Christmas tree farms and many other themed outings.

As a result, canine costumes have become more than just something dogs wear once to a party. It's essential for dogs and cats who are up-and-coming social media celebrities to have a varied wardrobe. With their likes and followers growing faster than speeding bullets, their fans want new photos all the time.

the costumes.

The online marketplace eBay had 1.5 million pet costumes for sale on Oct. 21 out of 800 million items listed for sale, with 159 million active customers in 200 countries, said Zoher Karu, vice president of global optimization and data for eBay.

Pet costumes represent 2 percent of Costume SuperCenter's sales. The company sells nothing but costumes and accessories on eBay and other sites.

"There does not seem to be a ceiling on what people are willing to spend on their pets," said Michael Esposito, the company's

business development and affiliate marketing director. The majority of their pet costumes sell for \$14.99 to \$24.99. You would never know the costume only required a 10th of the fabric needed for a human costume, he said.

"Costume SuperCenter has seen its pet costume sales double every year for the last three years," Esposito said. He expects the trend to continue.

Halloween costumes for pets and people tend to follow news headlines and movies. The latest "Star Wars" movie isn't out yet but demand is already high for Darth Vader and Yoda costumes.

"In March next year, Batman and Superman — two of the most iconic superheroes — will face off on the big screen, but we are already seeing the competition play out in stores and online this Halloween season with these two costumes neck-and-neck, topping our best-selling list," said Eran Cohen, chief customer experience officer for PetSmart.

It's close, but the Batman costume is actually outselling the rest of the field, Cohen said.

The top five best-selling costumes on eBay for pets are Superman, lion, panda, Batman and necktie.



This Sept. 2, 2015 photo provided by Marc Dalangin shows his Welsh corgi, Wally, dressed in a Batman costume for Halloween in New York.

Associated Press

For adults, the top five costumes are Batman, Frozen characters, Alice in Wonderland, Star Wars characters and French maid. Spider-Man came in 10th. The children's list put Mario and Luigi (Mario Bros.) on top, then Star Wars, Batman, Frozen and a witch. The Minions, Spider-Man, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Minnie and Mickey Mouse and Power Rangers round out the kids list.

Another popular pet costume consists of a figure that appears to be riding the dog, like a storm-trooper riding a dewback, a reptile from "Star Wars."

Cynthia Dalangin has been in charge of Wally's wardrobe expansion, buying from eBay, PetSmart, DIY sites and garage sales. Wally has a particularly large collection of bowties because they set off his ears so well. She gets a lot of ideas from Pinterest and Etsy.

Most sellers said they stock pet costumes year-round because birthdays, Christmas and New Year's are all good holidays for partying and photographs. And keeping up one's online profile with fresh photos is a year-round job. Wally

went as Batman on Oct. 17 when he joined 56 other corgis at a pumpkin patch at Conklin Farms in Montville, New Jersey. A minion is next.

If Wally accepts all his invitations, he might have to rotate through all his costumes, including Captain America and an outfit themed on "Breaking Bad." And if he comes up short, "we still have the banana," Dalangin said. □



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Family builds Star Wars costume for son with cerebral palsy

BRADY McCOMBS
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Star Wars-loving Utah family devised an elaborate and awe-inspiring solution to the challenge of finding a Halloween costume for their 5-year-old son with cerebral palsy.

Chantelle and Patrick Bailey built a detailed replica of the Millennium Falcon that fits around Sebastian Bailey's walker. It is made of corrugated plastic with a wood foundation. It features blue lights in the back and headlights in the front to match the famous spaceship.

On top near Sebastian's arm is a small black apparatus with a big yellow button called a speech button. It's what Sebastian uses to communicate since he can't talk. For the costume, they've programmed it with his older brother saying, "trick or treat" interspersed with some of Han Solo's iconic one-liners from the Star Wars movie, such as "Sure hope the old man got that tractor beam out of commission, or this is gonna be a real short trip. Ok, hit it!"

Sebastian will go trick-or-treating in it dressed as Han Solo. His older brother, Holden, 8, is dressed as Luke Skywalker and their parents will go as R2-D2 and Chewbacca.



In this Oct. 27, 2015, photo, provided by Chantelle Bailey, Sebastian Bailey, 5, who has cerebral palsy, stands in his Halloween costume dressed as Han Solo aboard the Millennium Falcon from the original "Star Wars" movies in Sandy, Utah. Sebastian's parents created the costume so that it fits around his walker.

But the Baileys couldn't persuade their two daughters, Eden, 9, and Ava, 3, to join the theme. Eden insisted on being a bee and Ava Spiderman.

Chantelle Bailey said she and her husband stayed up late nearly every night for three weeks after their four children were asleep to build the spaceship. They did the sawing, draw-

ing and gluing in the kitchen, so they could watch TV. At first, she assigned the job to her husband, but she quickly realized it would be a two-person job.

It wasn't their first foray into elaborate Halloween costume-making. Two years ago, they built the red phone booth where Clark Kent becomes Super Man to go around Sebastian's

walker. Sebastian debuted his personal Millennium Falcon on Tuesday at a trunk and treat event at their church. It was a hit, with people giving Sebastian high fives and pats on the back all night, Chantelle Bailey said. He'll wear it again Saturday to go trick or treating in their neighborhood in the Salt Lake City suburb of Sandy.

Associated Pres

"It makes it easier for other kids to approach him," she said. "He's happy. He likes to hit the button."

People are already asking what they'll do next year for an encore, but Chantelle Bailey says this might be their final act. Sebastian is starting to walk a bit on his own, she said.

"Maybe he won't need one next year," she said. □

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Building under demolition partially collapses in NYC; 1 dead

DAVID B. CARUSO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The interior of a Manhattan building being demolished to make way for a luxury hotel caved in Friday, killing one construction worker and trapping another beneath the rubble for three hours before he was rescued, officials said.

The debris formed a V-shaped cavity when it collapsed and the worker was trapped at the bottom of the V — the most difficult place to extract someone because it is so unstable, fire officials said. The worker was in serious but stable condition after emergency crews using special tools dug him out. A doctor attended to him while he was in the rubble.

"The building is, of course, a very dangerous place to work," Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said.

The collapse was reported just before 10:30 a.m. at a site on West 38th Street where workers have been demolishing two adjoining buildings, floor-by-floor, for several months. Of the 19 workers on site, 17 escaped



Firefighters gather at the site where a building being demolished to make way for a luxury boutique hotel partially caved in, killing one construction worker and trapping at least one other beneath the rubble in midtown Manhattan, Friday, Oct. 30, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

uninjured. The names of the injured and dead weren't immediately released. It's not clear what caused the collapse, which happened in the smaller of the two buildings, a five-story

brick town house. The interior of the building was intact, and officials said there was no risk to the public.

Buildings officials said the company had all the necessary permits to demol-

ish the site and had been cited for excessive debris on Aug. 25 but nothing more serious. There was no stop-work order, though the engineer on Thursday had requested a work-stop until the building could be further shored, officials said. It's not clear if that work was happening Friday.

"We're committed to a full investigation of all the other facts related to this," said Rich Chandler, commissioner of the Department of Buildings.

According to buildings department records, the site is owned by Fortuna LLC. A woman who answered the phone at Fortuna Realty Group's office declined to comment and referred calls to Northeast Service Interiors, a demolition company. Northeast said its owners were at the site and couldn't immediately respond to a telephone call.

According to Fortuna's website, it acquired the property in late 2012 and was planning a 27-story, 170-room luxury boutique hotel there.

Robert Bankston, a demolition contractor who for-

merly worked on the site, said the two neighboring buildings were sound when the project began.

"It wasn't like the buildings were falling down," Bankston said.

He said his company left the project about a month ago amid a financial disagreement with the general contractor.

At least 60 firefighters responded to the collapse. Capt. Dominic Vertucci said it was a dangerous and prolonged rescue because of the fragile way the debris settled.

New York Police Department Sgt. Michael Edwards said the trapped worker was conscious and able to squeeze the hands of rescue crews, but he seemed to be in pain.

"He was cooperative," Edwards said. "He wasn't panicking."

Edwards and other crew members said they were relieved by the rescue.

"It's a feeling of elation," he said. "The rest of us want to get out without being stuck in the collapse as well." □

Report: Border agents used stun guns on fleeing suspects

LOS ANGELES (AP) — U.S. border authorities fired stun guns at least 70 times over four years at people who were running away, even though there was no struggle or clear indication that agents were in danger, a newspaper reported Friday.

At least six times, agents used the weapons against people who were trying to climb a border fence and get back into Mexico.

The Los Angeles Times (<http://lat.ms/1M5U2GF>

) also said three people had died after being hit by Tasers wielded by border agents or customs officers. Two people were shocked while they were handcuffed, and two were hit with five cycles of the weapon, even though the agency's policy says no one should receive more than three.

The Times examined 450 uses of Tasers from 2010 to 2013 that were documented by U.S. Customs and

Border Protection officials. It found that most of the people subjected to Tasers had been caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border or were suspected of being in the country illegally, not fleeing arrest on more serious charges.

The nation's largest law enforcement agency, which oversees the Border Patrol and inspectors at ports of entry, decided in 2008 to supply agents with the hand-held devices that deliver a paralyzing electric

charge as a way to end confrontations quickly and safely.

The program started with a pilot project in Texas and devices were widely distributed to agents beginning in 2010.

Customs and Border Protection Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske issued a new use-of-force policy last year. Now, agents are instructed to use Tasers only when a suspect poses an imminent threat and to be particularly cautious when

subjects are running. The Border Patrol and other law enforcement agencies have become more restrained in using Tasers, Kerlikowske said, even though he still believes "the good far outweighs the bad" with the weapons.

"You're seeing much less of the Taser being used when someone is in a precarious position, or fleeing," said Kerlikowske, a former police chief in Seattle. "I think we've learned a lot, and so has law enforcement." □

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Interior minister: 27 dead in club explosion in Bucharest

ALISON MUTLER
Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)

— An explosion and ensuing flames on a stage at a Bucharest nightclub on Friday left 27 people dead and 180 hospitalized with injuries, Romania's interior minister said.

Interior Minister Gabriel Oprea said the explosion occurred at Colectiv club in downtown Bucharest, a city of 3 million people.

Witnesses told Antena 3 TV that there were between 300 to 400 people at the club when the metal band Goodbye to Gravity was performing and a "pyrotechnical show" went awry. The station reported that people panicked and rushed for the exit.

Digi 24 television station cited witnesses who said the explosion came after a spark on stage ignited some polystyrene decor. Victor Ionescu, who was at the club with his girlfriend, told Antena 3 TV by telephone that there were huge flames after the explosion. □

"People were fainting, they were fainting from the smoke. It was total chaos, people were trampling on each other," he said. "It was a tragedy that could have been avoided if there had been more organization from the emergency services."

A young man filmed by Antena 3 said that flames engulfed clubgoers, burning their skin and hair.

According to the Bucharest-based metal band's Facebook page, lead singer Andrei Gault was the 2008 winner of "Megastar," a Romanian show similar to "American Idol." The band has five members and has released two albums since it formed in 2011.

The ministry says there were 60 ambulances and fire engines sent to the scene and a mobile hospital had been set up outside. Some 50 people were taken to the Floreasca emergency hospital, the ministry said.

Health Minister Nicolae Banicioiu called for people to donate blood to help the injured. □

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A survivor of an explosion that occurred in a club in Bucharest, is led away from the blast scene wrapped in a thermal blanket early Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015.

Associated Press

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Iranian-American reportedly detained in Iran; 4th in custody

JON GAMBRELL

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — An Iranian-American businessman who advocated better ties between Iran and the U.S. reportedly has been arrested and imprisoned in Tehran, becoming the fourth U.S. citizen known to be held there at a time when hard-liners are pushing back against the country's nuclear deal with world powers.

The reasons why Siamak Namazi would be detained were not immediately known.

Namazi, the son of a politician from the era of the shah, had been specifically criticized in hard-line commentary this year



In this Nov. 2, 2013 file photo, a veiled Iranian woman walks past a mural depicting the late revolutionary founder Ayatollah Khomeini, and national Iranian flag, painted on the wall of the former U.S. Embassy, in Tehran, Iran.

Associated Press

as Iranian conservatives warned against easing hostilities with the U.S. On Friday, Iran and the U.S. sat down together in new

multilateral talks trying to end Syria's civil war. Reports of Namazi's imprisonment follow the conviction of other Iranian-Americans, notably Washington Post journalist Jason Rezaian. Meanwhile, an Internet freedom group said a Washington-based Lebanese citizen recently disappeared while on a trip to Tehran.

Namazi was arrested earlier this month while visiting Tehran, according to the Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and The Washington Post, all of which relied on anonymous sources. Attempts by The Associated Press to reach relatives of Namazi, who has a home in Washington, weren't immediately successful.

Iranian officials could not be reached for comment Friday, part of the Iranian weekend, and state media did not mention Namazi. The U.S. State Department declined to confirm Namazi's arrest.

"We're aware of recent reports of the possible arrest in Iran of a U.S. citizen. We're looking into these reports and don't have anything further to provide at

this time," Michael Tran, a State Department spokesman, said late Thursday. Namazi is a son of Bagher Namazi, a former UNICEF representative who once served as governor of Iran's oil-rich Khuzestan province under the U.S.-backed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. The family fled after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, but appears to have kept business ties in Iran, and the younger Namazi traveled back several times.

His last known employer was Crescent Petroleum, a firm based in Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates that has been locked for years in a legal dispute with Iran over natural gas that is potentially worth billions of dollars in damages. A representative of the company said Namazi traveled to Tehran in mid-July on a private visit and "at the time of his reported detention was no longer an employee of the company."

The representative declined to be identified, citing the political sensitivities surrounding the issue.

Namazi identified himself as the managing director of Atieh Bahar, a consulting company in Iran, in a 2006 interview with the AP. An Atieh Bahar official, who refused to be identified, said Namazi had not worked with the firm "for eight or 10 years."

In online articles he wrote for Iranian.com, Namazi says he graduated from Tufts University in 1993 and returned to Iran for a time. "This land of my dreams was all I thought about. My passion for return was so great, it hurt," he wrote in 1997. "In Iran, you are either experiencing heaven or hell. There are very few in-betweens."

In recent years, Namazi

wrote several pieces calling for improved ties between Iran and the U.S., and urging Iranian-Americans to act as a bridge between the rival governments. In 2013, Namazi wrote about shortages of medical supplies caused by international sanctions on Iran in an opinion piece published by The International Herald Tribune. He urged the West to "relax and rationalize" the sanctions to allow medical goods into Iran, or "more Iranian men, women and children will suffer needlessly." Still, Namazi raised suspicions among hard-liners in Iran. In May, a hard-line Iranian website called Fardanews specifically pointed to him in a highly critical article, accusing him of being part of efforts to allow the West to infiltrate Iran.

"Siamak has always played the role of bridge between the U.S. government with some notorious local figures in the country," the website said. "His allies and family have been ground-preparing for soft infiltration of the U.S. in Iran."

In recent weeks, Iranian businessmen with links to foreign companies have been detained, interrogated and warned against becoming involved in economic monopolies controlled by Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard. The Wall Street Journal reported, citing businessmen inside and outside of Iran.

Among them is Washington-based Lebanese citizen Nizar Zakka, who disappeared Sept. 18 while visiting Tehran for a state-sponsored conference, according to a statement from the Washington-based group IJMA3-USA, which advocates for Internet freedom across the Middle East. □



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Puerto Rico to ban plastic bags through executive order

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Puerto Rico's governor signed an executive order Friday banning the use of plastic bags across the U.S. territory, defying legislators who just days ago rejected a similar bill.

The ban will take effect in mid-2016 and will be preceded by a six-month educational campaign. Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said.

The announcement surprised many because 25 legislators in the island's House of Representatives recently voted against a measure calling for such a ban. Lawmakers had said they opposed the bill because it would charge people for the use of plastic bags amid an economic crisis.

Garcia said grocery stores across Puerto Rico import tons of plastic bags a year, noting that one small supermarket chain alone annually imports bags that fit in six boxcars that are 42 feet (13 meters) long.

"All that ends up in landfills in the best-case scenario," he said. "They end up on our streets, in our sewage system ... and kill our turtles

and coral reefs."

The popular western tourist town of Rincon is the only Puerto Rican municipality that currently bans the use of plastic bags.

Environmental activists praised the move, noting that it is common to double-bag all groceries on the island, no matter how small the purchase. Garcia said he would push for legislation to be approved to help bolster his executive order.

Rep. Carlos Vargas, a member of Garcia's party whose vote helped defeat the initial bill, said he supports the idea of having an educational campaign and will seek to have the funds generated by penalties destined for environmental projects.

Elsewhere in the U.S., plastic bag bans have been implemented in cities including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Seattle and Austin, Texas. In addition, all counties in Hawaii have approved such a prohibition. There is currently no statewide ban on plastic bags, although California is placing the issue before voters in a November 2016 ballot. □



In this Oct. 26, 2013 file photo, volunteers unload trash they removed from the San Juan Bay Estuary in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

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Baseball blues in Venezuela as economic chaos hits stadiums

HANNAH DREIER

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuela's raucous, boozy and affordable baseball games have long provided respite from the growing gloom in the economically struggling country.

Now, a more than quadrupling of ticket prices is putting a damper on the national pastime, with the season kicking off this month to sometimes half-empty stadiums and featuring players who say their per diems don't go far enough to buy lunch.

On a recent game night, hardcore baseball lovers celebrating what fans call Venezuela's national religion filled about a third of the sooty stadium in central Caracas. The plaza of vendors outside had the ghost-town feel that has come to mark so much of Venezuelan life as the socialist country grapples with the world's highest inflation and a severe shortage of imported goods. Average



In this Oct. 27, 2015 photo, Jesus Lezama, a 96-year-old fan of the Leones de Caracas baseball team, blows a horn during a game against the Navegantes del Magallanes in Caracas, Venezuela. Associated Press

from the Dominican Republic, including several who are playing for the Kansas City Royals in the World Series this week. During the offseason, major and minor league players often come to play in the

the most popular brands had gone missing altogether.

"Last year my shoes cost 2,000 bolivars and this year they cost 18,000," he shouted back at outraged customers.

Even beer fans with money are cutting back.

Radio DJ Daniel La Cruz has been limiting himself to two bottles of light beers per inning, instead of ordering a case of 36 for himself and his wife to share like usual. "I couldn't afford to buy a new jersey this year either," he said. "Still, you can't just watch the game on TV. Baseball is life for Venezuelans."

Below him, a couple sat together in an empty row, having decided to save money by leaving their kids at home for what used to be a family activity.

Outside, T-shirt vendor Alexander Morales eyed the empty walkways. He skirts Venezuela's rigid currency controls by buying dollars on the black market to import his merchandise. Like the beer vendor, Morales took his share of abuse from fans objecting to his price, which are up 500 percent from last year. That's about the inflation seen for other imported goods like specialty foods and electronics, but far ahead of the rates seen in taxis and

street food stands.

"I put my faith in God, but these are apocalyptic times," he said.

Oscar Prieto Parraga, president of the Venezuelan Professional Baseball League, believes people are overestimating the drop in attendance, and says he and other officials are doing all they can to



In this Oct. 27, 2015 photo, a vendor counts his money as he sells "tequenos," a breaded cheese snack, during a baseball game between the Leones de Caracas and the Navegantes del Magallanes in Caracas, Venezuela. Associated Press

attendance at the 25,000-seat arena is down 25 percent for the first month of the season.

"It's not just the ticket price; it's the cost of everything you have to buy your family during the game," said Luis Rojas, director of Caracas' Estadio Universitario.

While most South Americans prefer soccer, Venezuela is crazy for baseball. It's exported more players to Major League Baseball than any country aside

oil-producing nation.

The fact that thousands of Venezuelans so far have been willing to pay the stadium's new ticket prices of up to 2,000 bolivars — a fifth of the monthly minimum wage — is a testament to their love for the game.

A beer vendor drew jeers as he worked the stands after giving fans the unhappy news that the price of a 300-milliliter (10-ounce) bottle had jumped from 30 to 120 bolivars since the season ended last year, and

in this Oct. 27, 2015 photo, baseball fans watch a game between the Leones de Caracas and the Navegantes del Magallanes in Caracas. Average attendance at this 25,000-seat stadium is down by 25 percent for the first month of the season. Associated Press

maintain a sense of normalcy for fans in the face of raging inflation.

"We're working as hard as we can to put on the show Venezuelans demand," he said. "Baseball is a serious thing here. It's so serious we even manage to start the games on time."

For many years, the country's runaway inflation

seemed to hardly touch baseball. Last year, attendance was up 5 percent for major stadiums around the country, and ticket sales for the Caracas team jumped about 3 percent.

Now, it's not just the fans and vendors who are being hit. Team managers say they are struggling to rent buses, pay for hotel rooms and provide basics like cups and toilet paper, which can sometimes only be found on the black market.

The sport as a whole has begun to struggle under the weight of the country's mounting problems. Some recruiters from the U.S. say they have been scared away by a visa requirement the administration imposed this year amid a tiff with the U.S. This spring, the Seattle Mariners became just the latest major league team to shut down its baseball academy here.

Still, a carnival atmosphere reigns among the reduced number of fans at the Caracas stadium. A man flashed a cap from an opposing team, drawing a round of jolly taunts, though not the beer throwing that used to



be customary when brews were cheaper. And a samba band provided a brain-rattling drum score to every play.

As the game got going, the fans began to chant, as they have for years, "This government's going to fall! It's going to fall and fall and fall!" □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

The best show in Aruba is back!

Comedians from the "Tonight Show," "Letterman Show," "Last Comic Standing," and Comedy Central performing all of November!

Top American standup comedians perform in Ray Ellin's phenomenal show at the Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino starting November 1st! Pre-purchase tickets at www.ArubaComedy.com

The best show in Aruba is back!

"Aruba Ray's Comedy" features some of the funniest American standup comedians in a terrific 90-minute show. Advance tickets are suggested, and are available at www.ArubaComedy.com. This wonderful show is a great way to spend a night out. The comedians are truly some of the best from the United States, and perform in a relaxed, intimate setting at the Marriott.

In addition, there is also an option to purchase a four-hour premium open bar, and each person receives a free casino promotion with their ticket at the Stellaris Casino.

Some of the comedians appearing for this stint include very recognizable faces Tony Woods from HBO and Comedy Central, Keith Robinson from tours with Kevin Hart, Mark Normand from tours with Amy Schumer, Mike Vecchione from Conan and Tonight Show, and Brian Scott McFadden from The Secret Life of Walter Mitty and David Letterman Show.

Ray Ellin hosts and produces the shows. Considered by his peers to be the best host in NYC, Ray is known as "Aruba Ray" because of his passion for Aruba. Ray has been coming to Aruba every month for over three years, and produces and hosts these incredible comedy shows on the island. He is a popular comedian in New York, and has brought



his talent and colleagues to Aruba.

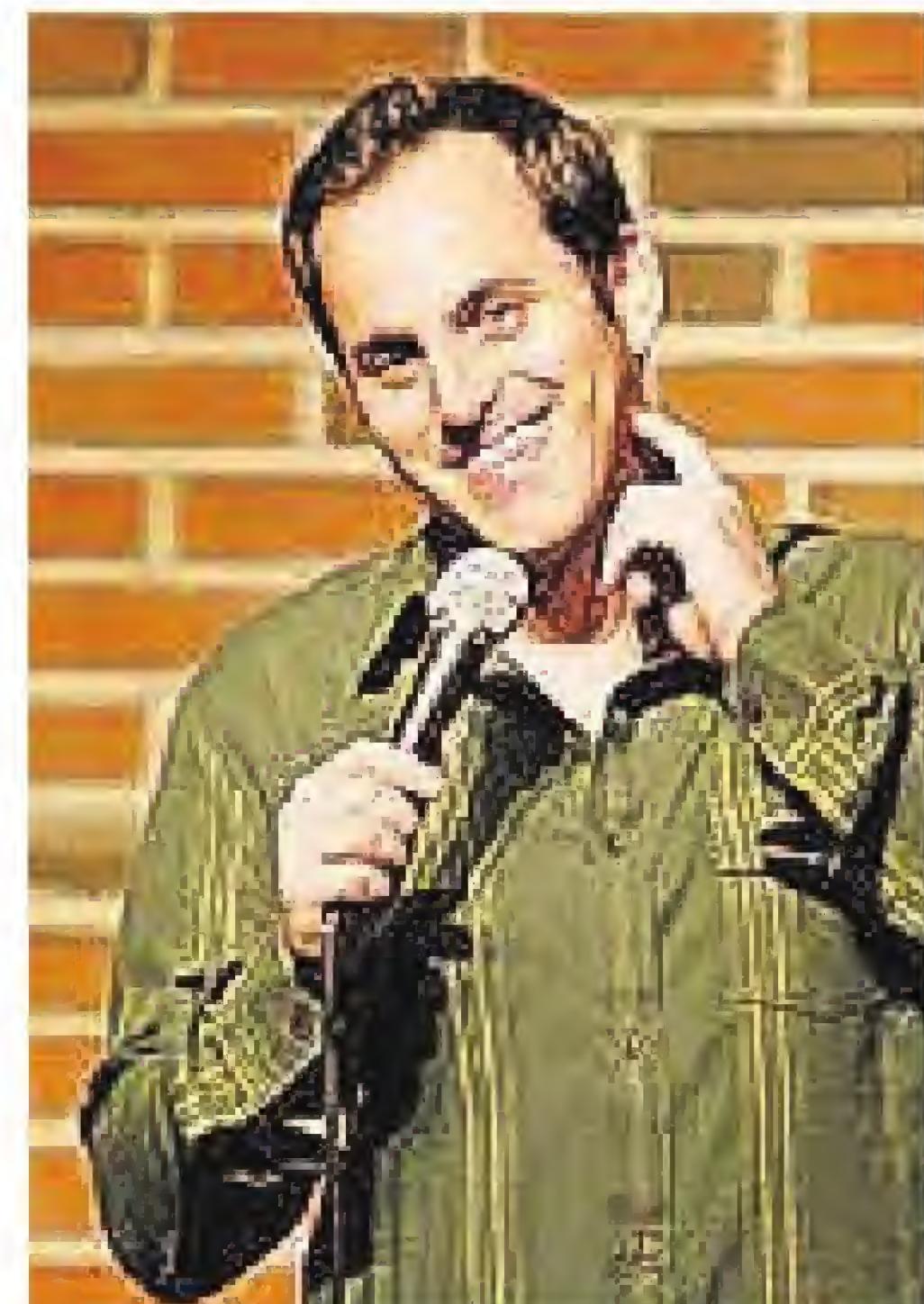
Ray has appeared on many television programs; he is the host of the new Gong Show Live, a resurrection of the classic 70's television show. He also hosted the popular talk show Late Net, and hosted the television shows The Movie Loft, Brain Fuel, and New York Now. He also produced and directed the very successful film The Latin Legends of Comedy, distributed by 20th Century Fox. Ray co-created and is co-starring in the new television show Cellar.

The shows are at 8:30pm, every night, from November 1st to November 28th, in the Amsterdam Ballroom at the Marriott Resort, down the hall from the casino. Doors open at 8pm.

It is suggested to arrive early - seating is first come first serve.

The showroom is intimate -- it is suggested you purchase tickets in advance at www.ArubaComedy.com.

You can also purchase tickets (subject to availability) at the Amsterdam Ballroom showroom door at 7:30pm.



The tickets are \$36. And each Comedy Ticket gives every audience member a free promotion in the Stellaris Casino at the Marriott (ID required!). And each Comedy Ticket will also provide a 20% discount to the Aruba La Vista buffet. Plus, audience members can purchase an OPTIONAL four-hour premium open

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The comedians perform regularly in New York City's biggest venues.

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Anyone can attend, however the show is suggested for a mature audience.

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Silver Jubilee for Atlantis Submarines

25 years of going down in Aruba



ORANJESTAD - Atlantis Submarines Aruba celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. The submarine made its first dive ever in the southern Caribbean waters on October 15 1990 and its first commercial passenger dive in November 1990. The first submarine dive was done with special guests like the Prime Minister back then, Nelson Oduber. Dick Sougé had the honor to be the first General Manager of this new tour company in Aruba, later followed by Warren Stanley. In 2011 all shares were purchased by De Palm Tours who is still

operating Atlantis Submarines Aruba with success. The Submarine VI was built in Vancouver Canada in 1989 and shipped to Aruba for its first passenger dive. Atlantis Submarines Aruba has been operating

successful dives since then and is expecting its 1 millionth passenger anytime soon. The tour doesn't only offer a comfortable view of the underwater world without getting wet, but guests will also experience the unique event of going down in a real submarine. The Atlantis Submarines Expedition Tour begins at the Adventure Center in downtown Oranjestad, where passengers will take a transfer to the submarine itself. In here they will have the opportunity to get an up close view of exotic marine life and two sunken wrecks while diving to depths up to 130 feet. Turtles are quite common



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to see but the very lucky ones get to see dolphins which doesn't happen often. The submarine is air-conditioned and U.S. Coast guard approved.

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Yves and Sophie return to Aruba for their 10th anniversary



Imagine meeting your soul mate, falling in love, having your love blessed with family present on a beautiful white sandy beach. That's what happened ten years ago.

In July 2005 Yves Doens and Sophie Vanthillo embarked upon a journey around the world. They started in South America and flew



to Aruba in October 2005 where they reunited with family and friends who joined them for a romantic wedding ceremony on the beach. At that time they



actually go to Aruba they kept talking to everyone of Aruba."

"And they have now an age where they will remember the trip. On top of this they did a wonderful job as the ring bearers", Yves adds.

"We love being a part of the wedding. I also find Aruba very pretty. Especially the little iguanas", says Cate, the youngest daughter.

Eryn says she enjoys the warm clear water the most and loves snorkeling. Although Yves and Sophie promised each other not to cry during the ceremony, like they did ten years ago, a little tear was still shed. Luckily this time, contrary to ten years ago, Yves was able to say his vows himself without the assistance of the best man.

Aruba was chosen for its beautiful nice white sandy beaches and it's perfect sunset, which adds the correct flavour to this romantic event. On top of this the minister spoke Dutch which made it easy for the girls to follow the whole ceremony.

The ceremony was concluded with a passionate kiss and formalised with the signature of the wedding certificate. The two pretty girls took the signature of this certificate very seriously. "We have several signatures", they pronounced proudly. "We took the most beautiful one." And so they did, both with a beautiful heart. □

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promised each other they would return on their tenth anniversary.

And so they did, because now ten years later Yves and Sophie return to Aruba to renew their vows. Also this time they did not come alone. Their two beautiful daughters of seven and six years as well as their parents came along.

"We thought it would be great to let our children see what Aruba means to us. We have shown them all the pictures and the newspaper clipping", says Sophie. "We definitely wanted them to be a part of an experience we still cherish every day. As soon as we told them we would

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

Column:

Patriots taking out Deflategate wrath on rest of NFL

BY PAUL NEWBERRY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

The New England Patriots are still ticked off. They're taking it out on the rest of the NFL.

Instead of being the scandal that brought down Belichick, Brady & Co., Deflategate turned out to be the fuel that might just propel the Patriots to their greatest season yet.

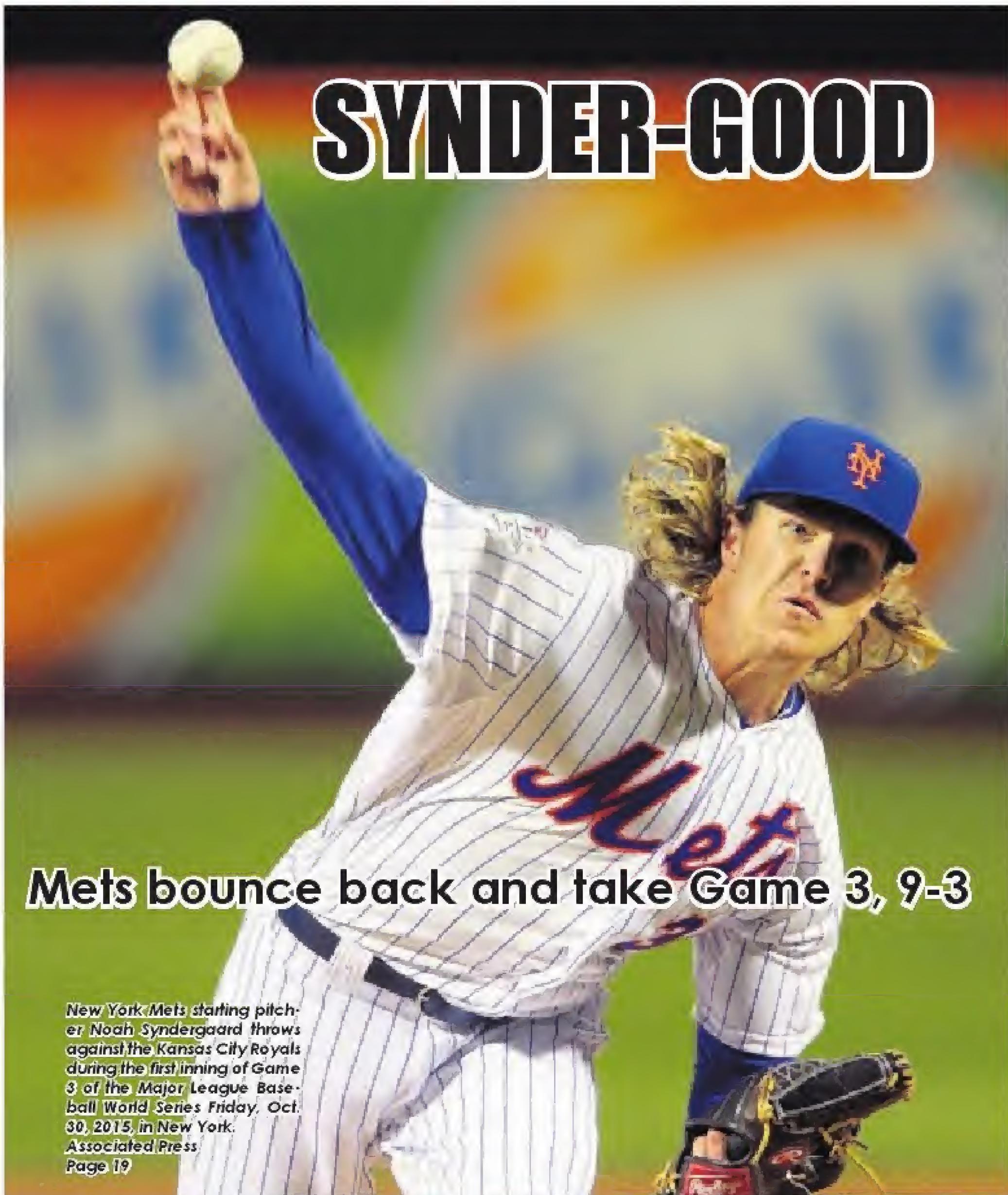
New England (7-0) has been utterly dominant through the first half of the season, doling out its latest shellacking on the Miami Dolphins, who never had a chance in a 36-7 rout Thursday night. The NFL attempted to drop the hammer on the Patriots, doling out a four-game suspension to quarterback Tom Brady. He went to court and beat the rap. Now, at age 38, he's putting together a remarkable season (69 percent completions, 20 touchdowns, just one interception, on pace to throw for more than 5,500 yards, which would be an NFL record) and boasting that he wouldn't mind playing for another decade.

Seriously, Tom, quit rubbing it in. Aren't four Super Bowl rings and being married to Gisele Bündchen enough for you?

Nope.

Continued on page 22

SYNDER-GOOD



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Federer, Nadal advance to Swiss Indoors semifinals

GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) — Roger Federer overcame mid-match service problems to beat David Goffin 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 on Friday and advance to the Swiss Indoors semifinals.

Top-seeded Federer gave the eighth-seeded Belgian hope in their repeat of last year's final when he dropped two straight service games in the second set to help level the match. Federer eased the nerves of his hometown fans in a deciding set that started after 11 p.m. local time, quickly killing Goffin's momentum with a service break and cruising to victory.

Seeking a seventh title in Basel, Federer will play 29th-ranked Jack Sock of the United States in the semifinals on Saturday.

Sock rallied to win an all-American match — his third straight this week — beating Donald Young 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 on a day when all four

quarterfinals went to three sets.

Rafael Nadal rode another comeback win into the semifinals and outlasted Marin Cilic 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Third-seeded Nadal trailed by a set and a break before getting his third three-set win this week.

"I think he (Cilic) was playing great. Then I tried to change position a little bit on (my service) return," said Nadal, who on Monday had to break serve to avoid a quick first-round exit against Lukas Rosol.

The match turned when seventh-seeded Cilic's service faltered and Nadal seized a fourth straight break-point chance to lead 5-3 in the second.

Nadal broke service twice more in the decider and clinched when the tall Cro-



Marin Cilic during their quarter final match at the Swiss Indoors tennis tournament at the St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland, Friday, Oct. 30, 2015.

Associated Press

atian sent a backhand volley wide.

Nadal's next opponent is Richard Gasquet who had a close escape to reach

the final four. The fifth-seeded Frenchman saved a match point in the deciding tiebreaker to beat big-serving Ivo Karlovic of

Croatia 6-4, 6-7 (2), 7-6 (6). Gasquet got the only break of serve in the match despite 36-year-old Karlovic firing 32 aces. □

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Wright, Granderson HR, Mets beat Royals, trail 2-1 in Series

By MIKE FITZPATRICK

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) -- Two balls launched over the wall, one fired over an opponent's head and just like that, David Wright and the New York Mets are right back in this World Series. Wright homered and drove in four runs, Curtis Granderson also connected and rookie Noah Syndergaard set a nasty tone at the start of a 9-3 victory against the Kansas City Royals that trimmed New York's deficit to 2-1 Friday night.

Shut down at the plate in Kansas City, the Mets broke loose with 12 hits from nine different players as they chased Yordano Ventura early during the first Series game at Citi Field.

Pitching on Halloween eve, Syndergaard recovered from a scary start and went six innings, giving the Mets the winning performance they didn't get from fellow young starters Matt Harvey and Jacob deGrom at Kauffman Stadium.

Hometown rookie Steven Matz will try to pull New York even Saturday night in Game 4 when he faces 36-year-old Chris Young and the Royals.

After the Mets fell behind in the first inning, Granderson started the bottom half with a single and Wright hit his first World Series home run, recharging a packed crowd of 44,781 that included Jerry Seinfeld, Chris Rock and Dennis Miller. The captain, who entered batting .182 without an RBI in his first World Series,

added a two-run single on Kelvin Herrera's first pitch during a four-run sixth that broke it open. Pinch-hitter Juan Uribe, just back from a chest injury, had an RBI single in his first plate appearance since Sept. 25. Slumping slugger Yoenis Cespedes added a sacrifice fly.

Hoping to rekindle the comeback spirit of 1986, when the Mets rallied from an 0-2 World Series hole to beat Boston for their most recent championship, the team played its highlight video from that year on the large scoreboard during batting practice.

Hometown boy Billy Joel sang the national anthem, same as 29 years ago at Shea Stadium, and Syndergaard caught everyone's attention with his first delivery to aggressive leadoff hitter Alcides Escobar.

Well aware of Escobar's penchant for attacking the first pitch - the ALCS MVP opened Game 1 against New York with an inside-the-park homer - Syndergaard promised Thursday he had "a few tricks" up his sleeve for Escobar.

That turned out to be a 97 mph fastball fired just off the inside corner and way over Escobar's head, eliciting a huge cheer from fans. The skinny shortstop went down to the dirt on his rear end and stayed there, legs splayed, catching his breath for several seconds. Kansas City players spent the next few innings shouting at Syndergaard from the dugout.



New York Mets' David Wright hit a two-RBI single against the Kansas City Royals during the sixth inning of Game 3 of the Major League Baseball World Series Friday, Oct. 30, 2015, in New York.

Associated Press

Escobar whiffed on a 99 mph heater, yet the Royals hardly looked intimidated as they scored three runs in the first two innings. Ben Zobrist doubled and scored on a groundout by Eric Hosmer that gave him 16 RBIs in 14 postseason games this year. Alex Rios had an RBI single in the second, and another run scored on Travis d'Arnaud's passed ball.

But the Royals ran themselves out of a chance at a bigger inning when Alex Gordon was thrown out at third by rookie left fielder Michael Conforto, the safe call reversed following a replay review.

debut in the World Series. The 20-year-old son of 1994 NL Rookie of the Year Raul Mondesi pinch-hit in the fifth inning and struck out on four pitches.

POWER FIRST

New York's leadoff hitter has a Game 3 homer in four of the club's five trips to the World Series. Tommie Agee (1969), Wayne Garrett (1973) and Lenny Dykstra (1986) all went deep to start the game. Granderson waited until the third inning Friday - though the Mets did get a home run from their second batter of the night.

UP NEXT

Royals: Young won the opener in relief Tuesday, throwing 53 pitches and striking out four over three hitless innings. "My body feels fine," he said. "I'm not worried about bouncing back." The 6-foot-10 Princeton product, who has overcome a string of substantial injuries, went 5-9 in 24 starts for the Mets from 2011-12.

Mets: Matz made all of six major league starts during the regular season, and his World Series assignment is storybook stuff. The 24-year-old lefty from Long Island grew up a Mets fan about 50 miles from Citi Field. He planned to sleep at his parents' home Friday night and commute to the ballpark, just as he's done for much of his rookie season. "We're on off hours, so there's not much traffic. It's not too terrible," Matz said. "It's been pretty awesome to be able to do that." □



Atlanta Hawks guard Jeff Teague (0) dunks during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, in New York. The Hawks won 112-101.

Associated Press
NBA Capsules

Clips down Mavs in Jordan grudge match

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Blake Griffin had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Jamal Crawford added 15 points in the Clippers' 104-88 victory over Dallas on Thursday night in Los Angeles' home opener.

DeAndre Jordan had six points, 15 rebounds and four blocked shots in his first game against the Mavericks since his summer misadventures in Dallas. Jordan tentatively agreed to join the Mavs as a free agent before the Clippers' top brass and players descended on his Houston home and persuaded him to return to Los Angeles, infuriating owner Mark Cuban and Dallas fans. Austin Rivers scored 14 points for the Clippers, who pulled away in the second half with a strong bench performance.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 16

points for the Mavericks, who played without injured starting guards Deron Williams and Wesley Matthews.

GRIZZLIES 112, PACERS 103

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Marc Gasol scored 20 points and Mike Conley added 13 points and 10 assists for Memphis. The Grizzlies (1-1) had seven players score in double figures and closed it out by outscoring Indiana 18-7 over the final 3:49.

George Hill scored 20 points for the Pacers while Paul George and C.J. Miles had 18 each. The Pacers are off to their first 0-2 start in six years.

Memphis has won four straight over the Pacers and two in a row at Indiana. The Grizzlies shot 50 percent from the field, were a solid 7 of 16 on 3-pointers and scored 39 points in the

final 12 minutes.

HAWKS 112, KNICKS 101

NEW YORK (AP) — Jeff Teague scored 23 points, Al Horford added 21 and Atlanta beat New York for its first victory of the season. Looking more like the team that won 60 games last season and had the best record in the Eastern Conference than the one that was beaten badly at home in its opener, the Hawks shot 51 percent from the field. Kyle Korver had 15 points and Paul Millsap added 11 points and 11 rebounds for Atlanta. Carmelo Anthony scored 25 points and was 10 for 27 from the field for New York, while Robin Lopez finished with 18 points. Atlanta lost 106-94 to Detroit on Tuesday, while the Knicks were coming off a 122-97 season-opening victory at Milwaukee on Wednesday. □

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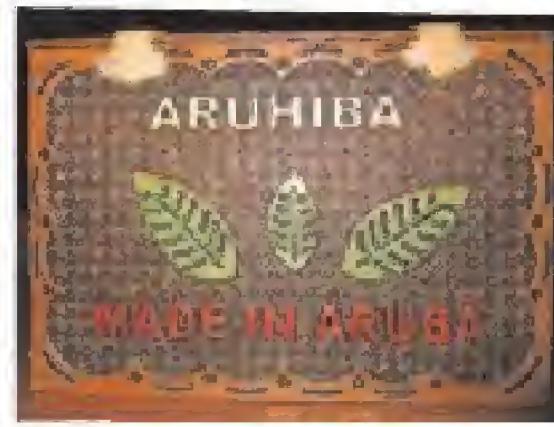
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NHL Capsules

Draisaitl's 2 goals help Oilers come back over Canadiens 4-3

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP)

— Leon Draisaitl's second goal with 1:02 left broke a tie and the Edmonton Oilers scored four straight goals in a 4-3 victory over the league-leading Montreal Canadiens on Thursday night.

Draisaitl was called up earlier in the day from Bakersfield of the AHL and missed the morning skate. He played in 37 NHL games last season. Brandon Davidson and Benoit Pouliot also scored, and the Oilers erased a 3-0 first-period deficit to end a three-game skid. Brendan Gallagher, Torrey Mitchell and Alex Galchenyuk scored for Montreal. The Canadiens have lost two straight after starting the season with nine straight victories. Edmonton completed the comeback when Ryan Nugent-Hopkins fed it out front to Draisaitl for his second of the contest.

HURRICANES 3, ISLANDERS 2 (OT)

NEW YORK (AP) — Ron Hainsey scored at 2:21 of overtime to lift Carolina over New York.

Brock McGinn and Chris Terry scored in regulation to help Carolina win its second straight to cap a 4-3-0 road trip. Eddie Lack stopped 17 shots.

Hainsey took a pass from Jordan Staal and slid the puck past Islanders goalie Thomas Greiss near the midpoint of the extra period for his second of the season. Terry had tied the score with 5:04 left in the third, finishing off a slick passing play with Eric and Jordan Staal. The goal was Terry's second of the season. Matt Martin and Frans Nielsen scored for the Islanders, and Greiss finished with 26 saves.

PENGUINS 4, SABRES 3

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Evgeni Malkin scored his fourth of the season on the power play, Jeff Zatkoff made 50 saves in his season debut and Pittsburgh beat Buffalo.

Pascal Dupuis, Patric Horn-

qvist and Ben Lovejoy all scored their first of the season and Malkin added an assist for Pittsburgh. The Penguins earned their third straight victory, sixth win in seven games and seventh straight over Buffalo. Malkin has four goals and nine points in his last seven games. Sidney Crosby had two assists, his first points in three games. Crosby is off to the worst start of his career and went without a point in eight of the team's first nine games.

Pittsburgh's power play, the worst in the league, scored its third of the season in 32 chances, breaking an 0-for-11 slump.

Jamie McGinn, Nicolas Deslauriers and Matt Moulson scored for Buffalo.

DEVILS 4, FLYERS 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Travis Zajac scored twice and Kyle Palmieri had a goal and two assists to lead New Jersey over Philadelphia.

Andy Greene scored an empty-net goal with 6.7 seconds left for the Devils, who won their fourth straight on the road.

Luke Schenn scored for Philadelphia.

Palmieri put the Devils in front at 1:28 into the third period when he blocked Evgeny Medvedev's shot attempt at the blue line, raced past Medvedev and fired a wrister from the left circle over goalie Steve Mason's left shoulder that made it 2-1.

Zajac made it a two-goal lead just over a minute later with his second power-play goal of the night.

Mason made 29 saves. Cory Schneider had 27.

AVALANCHE 2, LIGHTNING 1

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Alex Tanguay and Nathan MacKinnon each had a goal and an assist. Semyon Varlamov made 34 saves and Colorado beat Tampa Bay to end a four-game losing streak.

Varlamov won his 108th game with the Avalanche and moved past Dan Bouchard into second

place on the franchise wins list. Jarome Iginla had two assists to move past Phil Housley (1,232) into sole possession of 38th place with 1,233 points in his career.

Tampa Bay, coming off a 1-1-2 road trip, got a goal from Alex Killorn.

STARS 4, CANUCKS 3 (OT)

DALLAS (AP) — Jamie Benn scored midway through overtime and Dallas rallied to beat Vancouver.

Patrick Sharp twice tied the game with goals for Dallas. The Stars have won two in a row by overcoming multiple-goal deficits.

Sharp's second score tied it with 4:35 left in the third period, erasing what had been a 3-1 Canucks lead. Jason Demers had scored about 5 minutes earlier.

Alexandre Burrows, Alexander Edler and Radim Vrbata scored for the Canucks. Vancouver was held without a shot on goal for nearly 12 minutes to start the game.

Benn scored after skating out of the corner with the puck, shooting from just inside the right faceoff dot 2:28 into overtime.

The Canucks scored first on Burrows' penalty shot, the first awarded in the NHL this season.

JETS 3, BLACKHAWKS 1

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — Michael Hutchinson stopped 45 shots and Andrew Ladd scored on the power play to lead Winnipeg over Chicago.

Bryan Little set up a pair of goals for the Jets, who stopped the Blackhawks' four-game winning streak. The Jets (6-3-1) were ahead 2-1 going into the third period on goals by Blake Wheeler and Ladd.

Mark Scheifele added to the lead at 8:04 when he took a pass from rookie Nikolaj Ehlers and beat goalie Corey Crawford on the short side.

Patrick Kane scored the game's first goal, his sixth of the season, at 1:26 into the game on a power play for Chicago (6-4-0). □



Chicago Blackhawks goaltender Corey Crawford (50) loses sight of the puck as he saves a Winnipeg Jets shot during third period NHL action in Winnipeg on Thursday, October 29, 2015.

Associated Press

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TYE SHRIDAH | LOAHL MILLIE
SCOUTS GUIDE TO THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE
MON 3:15 | 7:20 | 9:30 | 11:45
FRI 5:10 | 7:30 | 9:30 | 11:45
SAT 3:00 | 5:10 | 7:30 | 9:30 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:10 | 7:30 | 9:30

BRADLEY COOPER | SIENNA MILLER
BURN
MON-THURS 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:35
FRI 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
SAT 2:05 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:45 | 7:05 | 9:25

CHRIS A. MURRAY | BETH SHAW
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY: THE GHOST DIMENSION 3D
MON-THURS 9:30 | 7:00 | 9:45
FRI 5:10 | 7:00 | 9:45 | 11:30
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TOM HANKS | MARK RYLANCE
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JACK BLACK | DYLAN MINNETTE
Goosebumps
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SAT 1:30 | 4:15 | 6:35
SUN & HOL 1:30 | 4:15 | 6:35

LEVI MILLER | HUGH JACKMAN
PAN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 4:30 | 7:00
FRI 4:30 | 7:00
SAT 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00

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HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
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FRI 4:00 | 6:35 | 8:45
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SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:00 | 6:35 | 8:45

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SICARIO
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-THURS 9:35
FRI 9:35 | 12:00
SAT 9:35 | 12:00
SUN & HOL 9:35

MATT DAMON | JESSICA CHASTAIN
THE MARTIAN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
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Caldwell looking to turn Lions' season around in London

CHRIS LEHOURITES

AP Sports Writer

WATFORD, England (AP)

— After a 1-6 start, Jim Caldwell still thinks the Detroit Lions have a chance to salvage their season. The next step in that quest, with a new offensive coordinator calling the plays, will be on Sunday when the Lions face the Kansas City Chiefs (2-5) at Wembley Stadium—Detroit's second straight year playing a regular-season game on the east side of the Atlantic.

"It's been done before, where teams turned around," Caldwell said Friday at the team's practice facility. "It certainly is possible." But it's not very likely, especially for a team going through big coaching changes after a 2B-19 loss to the Minnesota Vikings. The Lions fired offensive coordinator Joe Lombardi, the grandson of Hall of Fame coach Vince Lombardi, on Monday and promoted quarterbacks coach Jim Bob Cooter into



Detroit Lions head coach Jim Caldwell speaks in a press conference at the Grove Hotel in Chandler's Cross, England, Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2015. The Detroit Lions are due to play the Kansas City Chiefs at Wembley stadium in London on Sunday in a regular season NFL game.

Associated Press

his role. Caldwell, however, said the offense won't look too different against the Chiefs.

"It's not like you're going to make a whole lot of structural changes in a few days. It doesn't make sense, and functionally it's not great," Caldwell said of the new offensive setup. "So you have to make small tweaks here and there."

Cooter, who is 31, wouldn't go into specifics on what he will do with the offense. But he said he didn't plan to do anything drastic, while at the same time hoping to put more points on the scoreboard.

"Try not to put too much on their plate," Cooter said of this week's practices. "Ideally, our offense is going to score a lot of points."

Last year, the Lions came to London and beat the Atlanta Falcons 22-21. They went on to reach the playoffs, thanks largely to its Ndamukong Suh-led defense. Now Suh is gone, and it's been harder for the Lions to compete while struggling to score.

Against the Chiefs and their strong pass rush, Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford may again find it hard to get the offense moving.

"They got inside pass rushers and outside pass rushers, which is an issue," Caldwell said. "We have to be able to do multiple things in order to keep those guys at bay. "They're similar to what we faced at Denver, in terms of just exceptional pass rushers on the edge and guys inside that can give you some problems as well." The game at Denver didn't end well, with the Broncos handing the Lions their third straight loss to open the season, 24-12. They then lost two more before beating the Chicago

Bears 37-34 on Oct. 18 for their lone victory.

If there is any chance to turn things around, playing the Chiefs in London instead of in Kansas City is about as good a place as any to get started. Caldwell is expecting it.

"When you work extremely hard, typically success follows. These guys work," Caldwell said. "We just haven't been able to carry over our work that we've done really well during the week into the game, and that's what we have to do."

NOTES: General manager Martin Mayhew took some responsibility for the team's struggles when he met with some members of the media Friday. "Everybody's involved in what has happened thus far this season, especially myself," Mayhew said, according to the Detroit Free Press. "I'm responsible for our football operations, so it is on me what has happened this season." □

PATRIOTS

Continued from page 17

Nothing's ever enough for the Patriots, especially when they've got a convenient target for channeling their anger. Coach Bill Belichick has never been shy about immersing his team in an us-against-the-world mindset, going all the way back to Spygate and carried along by a persistent belief that he's always looking for ways to skirt the rules.

After the brouhaha over deflated footballs, Belichick channeled his disdain for Roger Goodell onto the other 31 teams, who have the misfortune of standing in as the commissioner's proxies each week.

The coach almost sounded satisfied after the beat-down of the Jets, though it won't last long. You don't build perhaps the greatest dynasty in NFL history, one that hasn't had a losing season since 2000, by stopping to smell the roses. Not ever.

"I thought there were a lot of good things out there,"

Belichick said coldly. "Still a lot of things we need to work on."

Somewhere under that hoodie, he's probably still mad about that Super Bowl loss almost eight years ago, when the Patriots won their first 18 games only to be beaten in the one that really mattered when David Tyree somehow caught a ball off the side of his helmet. Can this team do what that team couldn't? Could this team go 19-0? Probably not.

The biggest potential stumbling block is a Nov. 29 trip to Denver to face the unbeaten Broncos (6-0). Two road trips to New York, one to face the Giants on Nov. 15, the other against the AFC East rival Jets on Dec. 27, could possibly trip the Patriots up, too.

Then again, it's hard to see anyone stopping Brady and all those weapons he has around him, from Rob Gronkowski, the best tight end on the planet, to receiver Julian Edelman and running backs LeGarrett Blount and Dion Lewis. The defense gets overlooked,



New England Patriots defensive end Chandler Jones (95) sacks Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Tannehill (17) in the first half an NFL football game, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press

but it's playing well enough to carry the Patriots to another Super Bowl championship.

Edelman shrugged off any pressure to stay unbeaten. "It's more about just going out there and hammering

the nail away, all the way in," he said. "That's what coach always says. Just hammer away, because if you don't, you're going to be stubbing your toe on the floor with the nail coming out."

The Dolphins weren't the first team to get hammered by the Patriots.

New England's average margin of victory is more than 16.5 points per game, and it's really not even that close. Pittsburgh scored a meaningless touchdown with 2 seconds remaining to lose 2B-21 in Week 1. Buffalo trailed 37-13 entering the fourth quarter in Week 2, before rallying to a more respectable 40-32 setback. Only two games have given the Patriots a serious challenge. They trailed the Jets 20-16 in the fourth quarter, but Brady threw a pair of touchdown passes to pull out a 30-23 victory. Indianapolis led New England at halftime and may have pulled off the upset if not for one of the worst plays in NFL history, a fake punt that never had a chance, allowing the Patriots to escape with a 34-27 triumph.

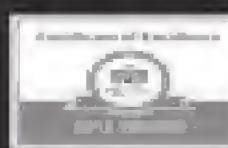
That said, New England hasn't been quite as dominant as that 2007 team, which won by an average of 19.7 points during its perfect regular season. □



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HP, a Silicon Valley icon, is ready for its break-up

BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

One of the nation's most storied tech companies will split in two this weekend, another casualty of seismic shifts in the way people use technology — and big-company sluggishness in responding.

Hewlett-Packard was an early pioneer of what became the model for Silicon Valley startups: Founded in 1939 by two Stanford graduates in a Palo Alto, California, garage, HP was long celebrated for its engineering know-how and laid-back corporate culture. It made hefty profits as it grew into a multinational giant that sold a wide range of computer gear and commercial tech services.

But after struggling to keep pace with recent trends like the rise of smartphones and cloud computing, HP's board decided last year to create two smaller companies, each with a narrower focus.

HP Inc. will sell personal computers and printers; Hewlett Packard Enterprise will sell commercial computer systems, software and tech services. Starting Monday, each will trade separately on the New York Stock Exchange.

The old HP "missed the emergence of the Web," said tech analyst Peter Burris at Forrester Research. "They missed the emergence of mobile."

HP's current chief executive, who pushed for the split, says the new spinoffs will be more nimble. CEO Meg Whitman will run HP Enterprise, while PC industry veteran Dion Weisler will lead HP Inc. Each will be independent, with "flexibility to respond to a constantly



In this Sept. 17, 1993, file photo, David Packard, right, co-founder of the Silicon Valley computer company Hewlett-Packard, announces his retirement as chairman during a news conference at HP's headquarters in Palo Alto, Calif. Packard, 81, started the company in 1939 with William R. Hewlett, who listens at left. Hewlett-Packard, one of the nation's most storied tech companies will split in two this weekend of Oct. 31, 2015, another casualty of seismic shifts in the way people use technology and big-company sluggishness in responding.

Associated Press

evolving market," Whitman told an investor conference last month. "With less to focus on," she added, "each company will do core things better."

By dividing HP into roughly equal halves, analysts estimate, each spinoff should produce more than \$50 billion in sales next year. But skeptics say neither will have the clout of the old HP, which became a leading consumer brand while using its vast size to negotiate volume discounts with suppliers and big contracts with business customers. "They won't have the impact that HP once had, now that they don't have the depth of portfolio they once had," predicted Rob

Enderle, a longtime industry analyst. "It's not clear what HP is anymore."

Each of the spin-offs will face significant challenges: Demand for PCs and printers is continuing to decline, as more people use mobile devices and store their documents and photos online in the cloud. And in the commercial computing sector, more businesses are using online software instead of buying servers and other hardware from companies like HP. HP recently said it's giving up on competing directly in cloud computing, a growing business in which companies large and small run software in remote data centers operated by Ama-

zon and others.

The same trends are rocking other long-time tech giants. Microsoft has been forced to change the way it sells software, as fewer people buy PCs that run its Windows operating system. PC-maker Dell is shifting its focus to corporate data centers, paying \$67 billion to acquire commercial computing giant EMC Corp.

IBM, meanwhile, has sold off units that made personal computers, servers and microprocessors as profits declined in each. It's investing in new sectors with more growth potential, such as data analytics, cybersecurity and cloud computing.

Along with external pressures, HP has struggled with internal problems — a series of controversial CEOs, botched acquisitions and scandals involving top executives and directors.

Critics still debate the wisdom of an earlier decision to spin off a unit that made scientific testing and measurement gear. That was HP's original, and some believe its most innovative, business. It became Agilent Technologies in 2000. As for the new spinoffs, Forrester's Burris said he's not ready to count them out. "It's reasonable to think both can be thriving companies, but a lot will come down to the quality of their management." □



FILE - In this June 12, 2015, file photo, Judith Castro, right, takes a lunch order from Julio Sanchez at a local grocery store in the Little Havana area of Miami.

Associated Press

Consumer spending records weakest gain in 8 months

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer spending in September posted the smallest gain in eight months, a sign that shoppers grew cautious at the end of the third quarter.

Americans increased their spending just 0.1 percent, the Commerce Department said Friday, the weakest showing since they cut spending in January. Income growth inched up 0.1 percent, which was the smallest amount in four months. Wages and salaries were flat following two months of big gains.

Still, spending totals can be influenced by price changes, and falling gasoline costs last month were a big reason for the weaker spending figure. Adjusted for inflation, consumers spent 0.2 percent more in September.

Americans snapped up cars and other large manufactured goods, the report showed, and spending on services also rose at a healthy clip. Many economists were reassured that Americans are still willing to open their wallets and

pocketbooks, even if at a more modest pace.

"Consumer spending is still healthy but it slowed as the third quarter came to an end," said Jennifer Lee, an economist at BMO Capital Markets.

The overall economy slowed sharply in the July-September quarter to an annual rate of just 1.5 percent, less than half the 3.9 percent rate seen in the April-June period. But that was mainly because businesses trimmed their stockpiles. Consumer spending was solid.

Spending is closely watched because it accounts for 70 percent of economic activity.

Economists are forecasting that it will remain on track in the fourth quarter, reflecting further gains in employment that should give households more income to spend. Consumers are also benefiting from declines in energy prices which give them more money to spend on other items.

The saving rate edged up slightly to 4.8 percent of after-tax income in September, compared to 4.7

percent in August.

The Federal Reserve this week left its benchmark interest rate at a record low near zero, where it has been for the past seven years. However, in a statement, Fed policymakers said they would be looking at the progress made on its employment and inflation objectives in deciding whether to begin raising rates at its "next meeting." It marked the first time in the Fed's seven years of low interest rates that officials have suggested that they could raise rates at the next meeting, which will occur Dec. 15-16.

One factor influencing that decision will be the performance of the Fed's favorite gauge of inflation, which is linked to consumer spending.

In Friday's report, overall inflation actually fell by 0.1 percent in September, reflecting the drop in energy prices. Over the past year, this inflation gauge is up just 0.2 percent, far below the Fed's 2 percent target. Excluding volatile food and energy, prices are up 1.3 percent, still below the 2 percent.

DuPont to open \$225M cellulosic ethanol plant in Ia.



In this Monday, Aug. 31, 2015 photo, Pioneer seed, manufactured by DuPont, is displayed at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur, Ill. DuPont reports quarterly financial results on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015.

Associated Press

DAVID PITT

Associated Press

NEVADA, Iowa (AP) — A refinery designed to make ethanol from cornstalks, leaves and cobs — not the grain itself — opened Friday in central Iowa, the culmination of a \$225 million construction project and millions more invested in its engineering and design.

The plant, owned by chemical and biotechnology company DuPont, will use the same bacteria that tequila distillers use to make ethanol instead of yeast, which is most prevalent in the ethanol industry. It's one of the new innovations DuPont said it has incorporated into the plant, touted as the world's largest cellulosic ethanol plant; DuPont expects it to eventually make 30 million gallons of the fuel additive a year.

"Our goal is to replicate this process in other rural communities in the U.S. and around the world so that societies everywhere can realize the economic, environmental and energy security benefits of advanced renewable fuel," said William Feehery, president of DuPont Industrial Biosciences, which runs the Iowa plant.

The plant's ethanol also will go into Tide laundry detergent, replacing the corn-based ethanol long used to stabilize the detergent formula and enhance washing performance. Refining ethanol from corn-plant material, called stover, makes use of the waste left on fields after harvest and expands the potential production of ethanol without using more of the grain itself. But the plant also opens at a time when the ethanol industry is struggling to maintain its market as it battles with the petroleum industry to retain government support.

The U.S. has more than 200 biofuel plants, and most use the corn kernel to make ethanol. A few other cellulosic ethanol refineries have opened across the U.S., but those in Kansas and Mississippi have fallen short of expectations after dealing with production problems.

The DuPont plant will be in full production next year, said Jan Koninckx, DuPont's global business director for bio-refineries, but was "careful not to predict exactly" how much it'll produce in 2016. DuPont is paying 500 Iowa farmers for their stover, a new way for them to make money.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has proposed lowering biofuel requirements set by Congress by 4 billion gallons this year and 5 billion gallons next year, noting that available fuel pumps and infrastructure limit how much ethanol can be distributed.

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Fed looks at way to shift big-bank losses to investors

MARCY GORDON

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — In their latest bid to reduce the chances of future taxpayer bailouts, federal regulators are proposing that the eight biggest U.S. banks build new cushions against losses that would shift the burden to investors.

The Federal Reserve's proposal put forward Friday means the mega-banks would have to bulk up their capacity to absorb financial shocks by issuing equity or long-term debt equal to prescribed portions of total bank assets.

The idea is that the cost of a huge bank's failure would fall on investors in the bank's equity or debt, not on taxpayers.

The Fed governors led by Chair Janet Yellen voted 5-0 at a public meeting to propose the so-called "loss-absorbing capacity" requirements for the banks, which include JPMorgan Chase, Citigroup and Bank of America.

The eight banks would have to issue a total of about \$120 billion in new long-term debt to meet the requirements of the proposal, the Fed staff estimates.

If formally adopted, most of the requirements wouldn't take effect until



Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen speaks during a meeting of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, Friday, Oct. 30, 2015, in Washington.

Associated Press

2019, and the remainder not until 2022.

The new cushions would come atop rules adopted by the Fed in July for the eight banks to shore up their financial bases with about \$200 billion in additional capital — over and above capital requirements for the industry. And they would be in addition to 2014 rules directing all large U.S. banks to keep enough high-quality assets on hand to survive during a severe downturn.

Combined with the regulators' previous actions, the

new proposal "would substantially reduce the risk to taxpayers and the threat to financial stability stemming from the failure of these (banks)," Yellen said at the start of the meeting. Stricter capital requirements for banks were mandated by Congress after the financial crisis, which struck in 2008 and set off the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Hundreds of U.S. banks received taxpayer bailouts totaling hundreds of billions of dollars during the crisis, including the

eight Wall Street mega-banks that became known as "too big to fail" in Washington.

The previously adopted capital and liquidity rules are the "belt" designed to reduce the likelihood of big banks failing, while the new proposal for transferring potential losses to investors is the "suspenders" in case banks do fail, said Oliver Ireland, an attorney specializing in banking law at Morrison & Foerster who was an associate general counsel at the Fed.

Investors will know that if a

bank fails, "they will be on the hook" and likely won't recover the full amount they put in, Ireland said. Higher interest rates paid by banks on the debt they issued beforehand would compensate for the investors' risk.

The other banks subject to the requirements are Goldman Sachs, Wells Fargo, Morgan Stanley, Bank of New York Mellon and State Street Bank.

In its action Friday, the Fed was putting forward its piece of a plan proposed by international regulators in November 2014 for "loss-absorbing capacity" for the world's 30 largest banks. Including the eight U.S. banks, they are considered so big and interconnected that each could threaten the financial system if they collapsed.

U.S. regulators won the power under the 2010 financial overhaul law to seize and dismantle big banks and financial firms that could fapple and jeopardize the broader system. The Fed sees a mandate for loss-absorbing capacity as a key to enabling that process. It would put long-term debt into a bank's holding company that could be converted to stock as an injection of capital — instead of taxpayer funds. □

U.S. stocks slip but finish month with biggest gain in 4 years

MARLEY JAY

AP Markets Writer

The stock market drifted lower Friday but finished October with its biggest monthly gain in four years. U.S. government economic data released Friday and earlier this week suggests the economy is still sluggish, stuck in a pattern of gradual but uneven growth it has followed since the Great Recession. But the outlook for future growth improved and fears waned that a slowing Chinese economy would send the U.S. economy into a tailspin. Strong corporate earnings in some sectors, like health

care and telecommunications, also helped propel the market all the way back to positive for the year after a swoon in August and a rocky September.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index has risen for five consecutive weeks and it ended October up 8.3 percent, its best month since October 2011. The index's increase of 159 points was the biggest in its 77-year history. The next-best month was March 2000, the height of the dot-com bubble, when it rose 132 points.

On Friday, stocks were largely flat through much of the day, venturing into

positive territory in the early afternoon before ending lower. The S&P 500 lost 10.05 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,079.36. The Dow Jones industrial average dipped 92.26 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,663.54. The Nasdaq composite index slid 20.53 points, or 0.4 percent, to 5,053.75.

The Commerce Department said Friday that consumer spending inched up just 0.1 percent in September, partly because consumers were spending less on gasoline as energy prices fell. The gain was the smallest in eight months. The department said Thurs-



This July 16, 2013 file photo shows a Wall Street street sign outside the New York Stock Exchange in New York.

Associated Press

day that economic growth slowed sharply in the summer, although most economists think the economy has improved this month. The busiest week of third-

quarter earnings wrapped up Friday with big moves for a slew of companies. Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.14 percent. □



Harapan, a Sumatran Rhino, roams his enclosure on his last day of viewing at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

Sumatran Rhino begins U.S.-Asia trip to ancestral home

DAN SEWELL

Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — The last Sumatran rhino in the Western Hemisphere began a journey Friday from Ohio to its ancestral southeast Asian homeland on a mission to help preserve the critically endangered species.

The 8-year-old male, Harapan, will make an air, land and sea trip of more than 10,000 miles. Including stops, the journey's expected to take some 50 hours before the rhino reaches an Indonesian sanctuary. A veteran Cincinnati Zoo animal keeper who was at the Sumatran rhino sanctuary when Harapan's older brother became a father there in 2012 is accompanying the rhino, along with a zoo veterinarian.

Conservationists hope Harapan can mate with one or more of the three females in the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary in Way Kambas National Park.

Zoo officials said the 1,800-pound rhino underwent medical checks and was trained to walk into and voluntarily remain in a specially made travel crate. Keeper Paul Reinhardt and veterinarian Jenny Nollman will travel with Harapan, who will have six cases of ficus along with bananas, apples and pears for his in-flight meals. Numbers of the two-horned "hairy" rhinos, descendants of Ice Age woolly rhinos, have fallen

by some 90 percent since the mid-1980s as development of their forest habitat and poachers seeking their horns took their toll. Including three Sumatran rhinos in a sanctuary in Malaysia, only nine are in captivity globally.

Harapan's brother Andalas lives in the sanctuary with three females and his one male offspring. Harapan's departure ends the Cincinnati Zoo's captive breeding program for the species that produced three rhinos.

Jim Young, 55, of Cincinnati said he saw all three of the rhinos that were born at the zoo. He was there Thursday for the zoo's last public viewing of Harapan. "I think they're an amazing animal," Young said. □

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Report: NASA needs better handle on health hazards for Mars

MARCI DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida

(AP) — NASA needs to get cracking if it wants to keep its astronauts alive and well on missions to Mars, according to an in-house report issued Thursday.

In an extensive audit, NASA's inspector general office looked at the space agency's overall effort to keep astronauts safe during lengthy space missions — especially trips to Mars, currently targeted for the 2030s.

Among the top health hazards for three-year, round-trip Mars missions: space radiation that could cause cancer, central nervous system damage, cataracts or infertility; extreme isolation, which could lead to psychological problems; and prolonged weightlessness, already known to weaken bones, muscles and vision.

There's also the issue of limited amounts and types of medicine and food, the latter potentially leading to weight loss and malnutrition.

Inspector General Paul Martin acknowledged that NASA is making progress in identifying and managing these health risks. NASA's first yearlong mission is underway at the International Space Station.

But Martin pointed out that the space agency is optimistic in thinking it can resolve all the issues by the



In this Aug. 31, 2013 photo made available by NASA, astronaut Chris Cassidy, Expedition 36 flight engineer, exercises on the advanced Resistive Exercise Device (aRED) in the Tranquility node of the International Space Station.

Associated Press

2030s.

"The agency still faces significant challenges to ensuring the safety of crew members on a human mission to Mars or deep space," the report concluded.

As such, the first astronauts who fly to Mars may need to accept even more risk than subsequent crews, according to the report. Stalling the health-risk effort, in part, is the continuing un-

certainty over the type of vehicles and habitats that will be used to carry astronauts into deep space, the report stated. NASA also needs to consolidate its expertise; right now, there's a lack of organization to manage crew health risks, the report noted.

NASA agreed with the conclusions.

To date, no American has spent more than seven months in space at a

time. The Russians are the world's space endurance champions, but even they haven't ventured beyond 14 months for a mission. By coincidence, the watchdog's 54-page report came out the same day NASA astronaut Scott Kelly broke the U.S. record for the longest single spaceflight. Kelly is more than halfway through a one-year station stint, as is Russian cos-

monaut Mikhail Kornienko. They won't be back on Earth until March. On Thursday, Kelly told a TV interviewer that while it definitely feels like he's been up there a long time, "I'm pretty sure I'm going to get through it without much of an issue." He said he hopes his mission will help get astronauts to Mars.

Medical researchers expect to learn much from Kelly's flight. □

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Lady Gaga gets jazzy at tribute to Ryan Murphy

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lady Gaga is continuing her jazzy period.

The entertainer performed an hour-long jazz set Thursday at the American Foundation for AIDS Research's tribute to Ryan Murphy.

"I love Ryan so much, and I'm so, so happy to be here," said Gaga, who stars on the current season of the writer-director's FX hit, "American Horror Story."

"He's really my friend and he's a wonderful person," she said.

Gaga dedicated the '60s standard "Call Me Irresponsible" to Murphy, who was the guest of honor at amfAR's Los Angeles Inspiration Gala. Murphy pledged to serve as "a lifelong ambassador" for the organization, which aims to find a cure for AIDS by 2020. Murphy said the evening raised \$3.1 million toward that goal.

Gaga contributed to the total during a live auction conducted by Sharon Stone. Gaga bid a winning \$200,000 on a photograph of Elizabeth Taylor flipping the bird. Cuba Gooding, Jr. engaged in a brief bidding war with billionaire Barry Diller for a pair of platinum diamond earrings. Diller won with \$60,000.

Gwyneth Paltrow hosted the fundraiser at Milk Studios, which also included appearances by Julia Roberts, Angela Bassett, Matt Bomer and Cheyenne Jackson. Murphy may have been the guest of honor, but Gaga was the reigning diva. She wore a long dusty pink gown with floor-sweeping kimono sleeves, an intricate diamond collar, and a platinum blonde beehive.

"You know, there are a lot of gentlemen here, but nobody's offered me a glass of Champagne yet," she said from the stage.



Lady Gaga, left, and executive producer/director/writer Ryan Murphy arrive at the Los Angeles premiere screening of "American Horror Story: Hotel" at Regal Cinemas L.A. Live on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015.

Associated Press

performance was inspired by Murphy.

For her closing number, Gaga ditched her dress for a tuxedo jacket and not much else. She sang "La Vie en Rose" — in French, bien sûr. □

Someone brought her a glass, which she drank in one swallow. Gaga performed "Bang Bang (My Baby Shot Me Down)," which she recorded for her 2014 album with Tony Bennett. "Cheek to Cheek."

She played piano as she sang her new single, "Til It Happens to You," a song she co-wrote with Diane Warren for the 2015 documentary "The Hunting Ground." Gaga said her

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In this Feb. 24, 2013 file photo, Adele performs during the Oscars at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

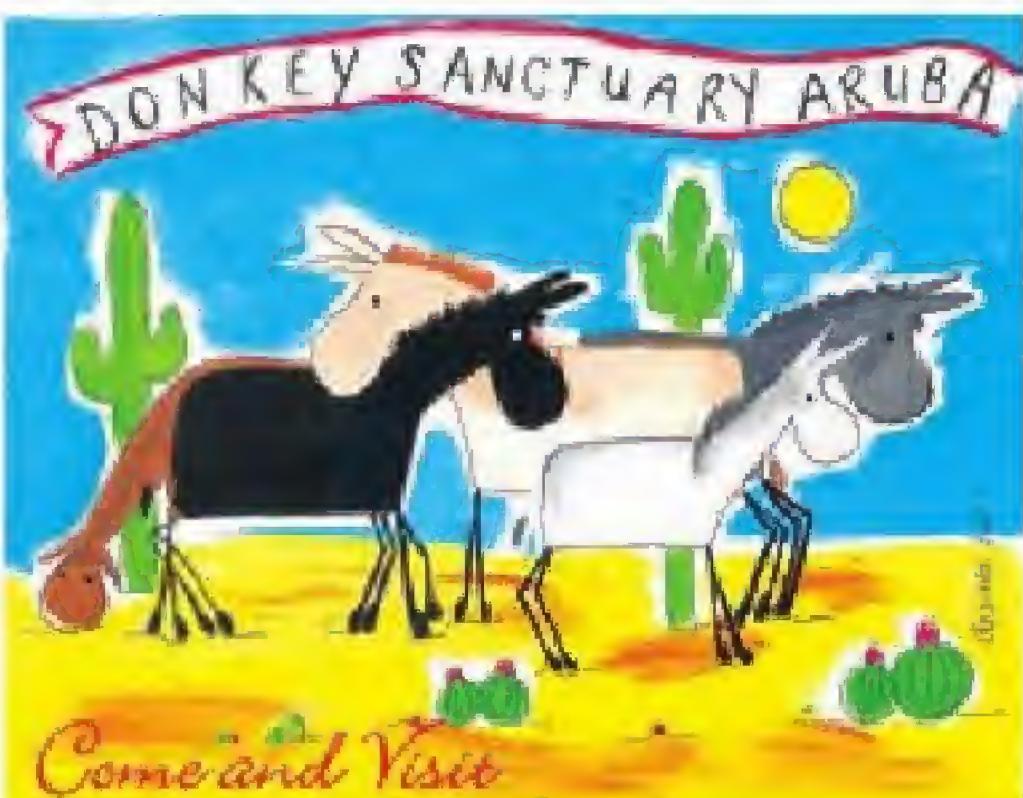
Associated Press

NBC locks up Adele for 4 performances

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC is booking Adele, pretty much everywhere they can get her. The network said Friday that the singer will tape a concert at New York's Radio City Music Hall in November, to be shown in a one-hour prime-time special on Dec. 14. The Grammy Award-winner just released her new song "Hello" with a full album upcoming. Adele will also perform on "Saturday Night Live" on Nov. 21, the "Tonight" show on Nov. 23 and the "Today" show on Nov. 25. She won't have far to travel — all three shows originate from Manhattan's Rockefeller Center, right next to Radio City. The video for "Hello" has already been viewed nearly 150 million times. □

Kardashians keep it up with new 'Keeping Up' season November 15

NEW YORK (AP) — The Kardashian clan is keeping it going with a new season of "Keeping Up with the Kardashians." E! network says the reality series will let loose with season 11 on Nov. 15 at 9 p.m. EST. To get viewers ready, the first of three specials, "Keeping Up: The Kardashians Rewind" airs this Sunday at 8:30 p.m. EST for a recap of Kourtney and Scott's relationship, Caitlyn Jenner's parenting style, and Kendall and Kylie's transition from pre-teens to businesswomen. A pair of other specials will air Dec. 1 and Dec. 8, E! said Friday. □



Come and Visit

Ex-N.W.A. manager sues over 'Straight Outta Compton' film



In this Aug. 14, 2006 file photo, music industry veteran Jerry Heller is photographed in New York's Central Park.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former N.W.A. manager Jerry Heller filed a multimillion dollar defamation lawsuit Friday over the hit film "Straight Outta Compton," claiming it portrayed him as a villain who led to the breakup of the gangster rap group. Heller, who is portrayed in the film by Paul Giamatti, sued former N.W.A. members Ice Cube and Dr. Dre, the widow of rapper Eazy-E, and NBC Universal, which released the film in August. "Straight Outta Compton" was a hit, earning nearly \$160 million domestically in the first six weeks after it was released in August. Heller claims the film portrays him as a villain who led to the breakup of N.W.A., which launched the careers for Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, and sparked the rise in popularity of gangster rap. The film is uses elements of

E. and NBC Universal, which released the film in August. "Straight Outta Compton" was a hit, earning nearly \$160 million domestically in the first six weeks after it was released in August. Heller claims the film portrays him as a villain who led to the breakup of N.W.A., which launched the careers for Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, and sparked the rise in popularity of gangster rap. The film is uses elements of

a script that Heller commissioned, and violates his copyright in a memoir that included his description of key moments depicted in the film, the lawsuit states. "The film is littered with false statements that harm the reputation of (Heller) and aim to ridicule and lower him in the opinion of the community and to deter third persons from associating or dealing with him," the lawsuit states. Representatives for NBC Universal and Ice Cube declined comment. A publicist for Dr. Dre did not immediately return an email seeking comment. Heller is suing Woods-Wright because he claims the film, which she helped produce, violates non-disparagement clauses in a settlement he reached with her in 1999. Woods-Wright could not be reached for comment. Heller is seeking more than \$110 million, although a jury would determine any damage verdict. □

Rachel Dolezal talks racial identity as guest on 'The Real'



In this July 24, 2009, file photo, Rachel Dolezal, a leader of the Human Rights Education Institute, stands in front of a mural she painted at the institute's offices in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — What race box does Rachel Dolezal check? Dolezal, the former NAACP chapter president who made headlines in June

when her race came into question, faces that question Monday when she guests on the talk show "The Real." The show's hosts (Tamar

Braxton, Tamera Mowry-Housley, Loni Love, Jeannie Mai and Adrienne Bailon) lead a discussion on racial identity with Dolezal, a white woman who for years passed herself off as black.

When first asked which race Dolezal would check on an application form, she hedges.

"The form in particular usually defines things," she says. "And you know I've been a professor of African history, black studies..."

"Yeah," presses Braxton, then asks again which box she would check.

"I check white AND black," says Dolezal, "because we all have human origins in the continent of Africa."

"The Real" is a one-hour talk airing weekdays on Fox Television Stations and in national syndication (check local listings) as well as cable network BET. □

How do you grow a pumpkin the size of a car? It's complicated

MICHELLE R. SMITH

Associated Press

COVENTRY, Rhode Island (AP) — Ron Wallace grows pumpkins nearly the size of a Fiat.

From the pumpkin patch in his Rhode Island backyard, Wallace has become the rock star of giant pumpkin-growing. He was the first person in the world to break the 2,000-pound, or 1-ton, barrier when he grew a 2,009-pound (911-kilogram) pumpkin in 2012, and he previously broke the world record in 2006. A friend calls him a "mainstreamer," someone whose passion for the hobby has spread word to the broader public.

Wallace, a country club manager, has spent 27 years at the hobby, swapping ideas with growers



A judge takes a look under the pumpkin entry, grown by Ron Wallace, during the giant pumpkin contest weigh-off at the Rochester Fair in Rochester, N.H., Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015.

Associated Press

2,009-pound pumpkin have sold for more than \$1,000 in a charity auction.

lobby top growers to use a seed they think is promising.

Like most serious growers, Wallace ties plants' blossoms closed and hand-pollinates them so he can be sure of the mother (the seed) and the father (the pollinator) and protect them from bees carrying pollen from a neighbor's squash.

The vines can grow 1 foot (30 centimeters) or more per day, and pumpkins can put on 45 pounds (20 kilograms) per day, mostly from water. The best pumpkins every year follow the weather. If conditions were right in the Ohio Valley, growers there might see a string of huge pumpkins. When there's a drought, as in California, don't expect a

bumper crop.

Standing in Wallace's fields, a person feels smaller. Around the edges where he grows flowers and vegetables, his sunflowers have reached 18 feet (5.5 meters). A tomato plant produced a 5-pound (2.3-kilogram) tomato. Wallace has spent more than two decades pains-



Giant-pumpkin grower Ron Wallace holds a single seed at the pumpkin patch in his garden outside his home in Greene, R.I., Aug. 18, 2015.

Associated Press

worldwide. A greenhouse grower in Switzerland holds the current world record: 2,323 pounds (1,054 kilograms), grown from a Wallace seed.

About 30,000 people grow giant fruits and vegetables competitively, and pumpkins are most popular, said Andy Wolf, president of the Great Pumpkin Commonwealth.

"All walks of life. Doctors, lawyers, farmers," Wallace says. "The bond is giant pumpkins."

It all starts with the seed. Top growers know their pumpkins' lineage back generations, and the Great Pumpkin Commonwealth keeps records.

Seeds from Wallace's

Wallace has seen counterfeits sold on eBay. Still, many growers freely swap seeds with each other or



Judges measure as volunteers examine the entries prior to the giant pumpkin contest weigh-off at the Rochester Fair in Rochester, N.H., Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015.

Associated Press

lace said. "Most competitive giant pumpkin growers aren't taking summer vacations."

Wallace, who's single, works up to 40 hours a week on his hobby, checking for mice and disease and burying vines, keeping pumpkins covered in sheets to protect the skin. Most growers end up spending hundreds or thousands of dollars per year. If they're lucky, they can sell what they grow for a holiday display for \$1 a pound, maybe more for a state record, but they say they rarely make money or break even.

One place these pumpkins won't end up: pumpkin pie. They're too big to be tasty.

The weigh-off is the moment of truth. Crews check for holes, cracks and rot, which would disqualify the entry, before putting it on the scale.

"You can do anything. You can tinker with professional plant hormones or whatever fertilizer you think's going to give you an ad-



Ron Wallace points to one of his giant-pumpkin-contest-winning ribbons in a trophy room of a garden shed near the pumpkin patch of his garden outside his home in Greene, R.I., Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2015.

Associated Press

takingly researching soil science and experimenting. This year, he launched a product based on his growing program, Wallace Organic Wonder. It includes among its ingredients mycorrhizal fungi. He calls it a superfungus that helps deliver water and nutrients.

"For growers who are competitive, it's year-round. They're studying, they're researching, they're building greenhouses, they're looking at genetics," Wal-

vantage," Wolf said. "The only thing you can't do is somehow doctor the actual fruit."

Wallace took the biggest pumpkin he grew this season to a weigh-off on Oct. 10. He won top prize weeks earlier at the Rochester Fair in New Hampshire, with a 1,975-pound (896-kilogram) gourd. Wallace estimates disease cost his Warren pumpkin as much as 150 pounds (68 kilograms), and he was wary before the weigh-in. □

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